Message Text

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TO SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY
SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5571
INFO USMISSION USNATO
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE
USNMR SHAPE BELGIUM
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

UNCLAS OSLO 1614

AMEMBASSY LONDON

SECDEF FOR ISA/LTCOL LOCKLEAR AND OASD/PA/GOLDSMITH

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: OVIP, NO

SUBJECT: SECDEF VISIT TO NORWAY

1. FOLLOWING PRESS RELEASE WAS PROVIDED TO NTB (NORWEGIAN TELEGRAM BUREAU) (NEWS SERVICE) BY MINISTRY OF DEFENSE ON 3 APRIL 1978.

QUOTE THE AMERICAN DEFENSE MINISTER, MR. HAROLD BROWN, WILL VISIT NORWAY 12 AND 13 APRIL. THE VISIT, WHICH IS OF AN ORIENTATION NATURE, HAS DEVELOPED FROM THE FACT THAT MR. BROWN SHALL PARTICIPATE IN MEETINGS OF NATO ORGANIZATIONS LATER IN THE WEEK.

MR. BROWN WILL COME TO BODO DIRECT FROM THE USA OF THE MORNING OF 12 APRIL. IN BODO THERE WILL BE ORIENTATION AND DISCUSSIONS ABOUT THE DEFENSE OF NORTH NORWAY, VISITS ON BOARD NORWEGIAN NAVY SHIPS, AND

MILITARY FORCES IN THE AREA WILL DEMONSTRATE CERTAIN OF THEIR TASKS.
AFTER A PRESS CONFERENCE FOR NORTH NORWAY NEWSPAPERS,
MR. BROWN AND HIS PARTY WILL PROCEED TO OSLO WHERE THERE WILL BE A
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VISIT WITH THE PRIME MINISTER AND INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS AT THE DEFENSE MINISTRY.

ONE ANTICIPATES THAT THE DISCUSSIONS IN THE DEFENSE MINISTRY WILL BE CONCERNED WITH DEVELOPMENTS IN THE NORTHERN AREAS AND QUESTIONS WHICH ARE RELATED TO THE BUSINESS TO BE CONDUCTED AT THE NATO MINISTERIAL MEETING IN BRUSSELS IN MID-MAY AND AT THE SUMMIT MEETING IN WASHINGTON 30-31 MAY.

IN THE AFTERNOON OF 12 APRIL, A PRESS CONFERENCE WILL BE ARRANGED IN THE DEFENSE MINISTRY.

THE NEXT MORNING, 13 APRIL, DEFENSE MINISTER BROWN CONTINUES TO BONN AFTER FIRST MEETING WITH MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, KNUT FRYDENLUND, IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS. UNQUOTE

2. NEGLIGIBLE PLAY GIVEN TO THE PRESS

RELEASE AS OF AM 5 APR. ANTICIPATE INCREASED INTEREST TO BE SHOWN, HOWEVER, AS VISIT NEARS, AND AS CURRENT SPATE OF LOCAL HIGH INTEREST STORIES SUBSIDES. BREMER

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